

Instantons on Cylindrical Manifolds

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Abstract

We consider an instanton, \mathbf{A} , with L^2 -curvature $F_{\mathbf{A}}$ on the cylindrical manifold $Z = \mathbf{R} \times M$, where M is a closed Riemannian n -manifold, $n \geq 4$. We assume M admits a 3-form P and a 4-form Q satisfy $dP = 4Q$ and $d *_M Q = (n - 3) *_M P$. Manifolds with these forms include nearly Kähler 6-manifolds and nearly parallel G_2 -manifolds in dimension 7. Then we can prove that the instanton must be a flat connection.

Keywords. instantons, special holonomy manifolds, Yang-Mills connection

1 Introduction

Let X be an $(n + 1)$ -dimensional Riemannian manifold, G be a compact Lie group and E be a principal G -bundle on X . Let A denote a connection on E with the curvature F_A . The instanton equation on X can be introduced as follows. Assume there is a 4-form Q on X . Then an $(n - 3)$ -form $*Q$ exists, where $*$ is the Hodge operator on X . A connection, A , is called an anti-self-dual instanton, when it satisfies the instanton equation

$$* F_A + *Q \wedge F_A = 0 \quad (1.1)$$

When $n + 1 > 4$, these equations can be defined on the manifold X with a special holonomy group, i.e. the holonomy group G of the Levi-Civita connection on the tangent bundle TX is a subgroup of the group $SO(n + 1)$. Each solution of equation(1.1) satisfies the Yang-Mills equation. The instanton equation (1.1) is also well-defined on a manifold X with non-integrable G -structures, but equation (1.1) implies the Yang-Mills equation will have torsion.

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Mathematics Subject Classification (2010): 53C07, 58E15

Instantons on the higher dimension, proposed in [6] and studied in [5, 8, 9, 22, 23], are important both in mathematics [9, 22] and string theory [12]. In this paper, we consider the cylinder manifold $Z = \mathbf{R} \times M$ with metric

$$g_Z = dt^2 + g_M$$

where M is a compact Riemannian manifold. We assume M admits a 3-form P and a 4-form Q satisfying

$$dP = 4Q \tag{1.2}$$

$$d *_M Q = (n - 3) *_M P. \tag{1.3}$$

On Z , the 4-form [14, 15] can be defined as

$$Q_Z = dt \wedge P + Q.$$

Then the instanton equation on the cylinder manifold Z is

$$* F_A + * Q_Z \wedge F_A = 0 \tag{1.4}$$

Remark 1.1. Manifolds with P and Q satisfying equations (1.2), (1.3) include nearly Kähler 6-manifolds and nearly parallel G_2 -manifolds.

(1) M is a nearly Kähler 6-manifold. It is defined as a manifold with a 2-form ω and a 3-form P such that

$$d\omega = 3 *_M P \text{ and } dP = 2\omega \wedge \omega =: 4Q$$

For a local orthonormal co-frame $\{e^a\}$ on M one can choose

$$\omega = e^{12} + e^{34} + e^{56} \text{ and } P = e^{135} + e^{164} - e^{236} - e^{245},$$

where $a = 1, \dots, 6$, $e^{a_1 \dots a_l} = e^1 \wedge \dots \wedge e^l$, and

$$*_M P = e^{145} + e^{235} + e^{136} - e^{246}, \quad Q = e^{1234} + e^{1256} + e^{3456}.$$

Here $*_M$ denotes the $*$ -operator on M .

(2) M is a nearly parallel G_2 manifold. It is defined as a manifold with a 3-form P (a G_2 structure [4]) preserved by the $G_2 \subset SO(7)$ such that

$$dP = \gamma *_M P$$

for some constant $\gamma \in \mathbf{R}$. For a local orthonormal co-frame e^a , $a = 1, \dots, 7$, on M one can choose

$$P = e^{123} + e^{145} - e^{167} + e^{246} + e^{257} + e^{347} - e^{356}$$

and therefore

$$*_M P =: Q = e^{4567} + e^{2367} - e^{2345} + e^{1357} + e^{1346} + e^{1256} - e^{1247}.$$

It is easy to check $dP = 4Q$.

Constructions of solutions of the instanton equations on cylinders over nearly Kähler 6-manifolds and nearly parallel G_2 manifold were considered in [1, 13, 15, 16]. In [16] section 4, the authors confirm that the standard Yang-Mills functional is infinite on their solutions. In this paper, we assume the instanton A has L^2 -bounded curvature F_A . Then we have the following theorem.

Theorem 1.2. (Main theorem) *Let $Z = \mathbf{R} \times M$, here M is a closed Riemannian n -manifold, $n \geq 4$, which admits a smooth 3-form P and a smooth 4-form Q satisfying equations (1.2) and (1.3). Let A be a instanton over Z . Assume that the curvature $F_A \in L^2(Z)$ i.e.*

$$\int_Z \langle F_A \wedge *F_A \rangle < +\infty$$

Then the instanton is a flat connection.

2 Esitimation of Curvature of Yang-Mills connection with torsion

Let Q be a smooth 4-form on n -dimensional manifold X . Let A be an anti-self-dual instanton which satisfies the instanton equation (1.1). Taking the exterior derivative of (1.1) and using the Bianchi identity, we obtain

$$d_A * F_A + *\mathcal{H} \wedge F_A = 0, \quad (2.1)$$

where the 3-form \mathcal{H} is defined by

$$*\mathcal{H} = d(*Q). \quad (2.2)$$

The second-order equation (2.1) differs from the standard Yang-Mills equation by the last term involving a 3-form \mathcal{H} . This torsion term naturally appears in string-theory compactifications with fluxes [2, 10, 11]. For the case $d(*Q) = 0$, the torsion term vanishes and the instanton equation (1.1) imply the Yang-Mills equation. The latter also holds true when the instanton solution A satisfies $d(*Q) \wedge F_A = 0$ as well, like the cases, on nearly Kähler 6-manifolds, nearly parallel G_2 -manifolds and Sasakian manifolds [14].

In section 4.2 of [1] or in section 2.1 of [13], they online that in the instanton does not extremize the standard Yang-Mills functional in the torsionful case. Instead, they add a add a Chern-Simons-type term to get the following functional:

$$S(A) = - \int_X \text{Tr} (F_A \wedge *F_A + F_A \wedge F_A \wedge *Q), \quad (2.3)$$

This is the right functional which produces the correct Yang-Mills equation with torsion. And the instanton equations (1.1) can be derived from this action using a Bogomolny

argument. In the case of a closed form $*Q$, the second term in (2.3) is topological invariant and the torsion (2.2) disappears from (2.1).

In this section, we will derive monotonicity formula for Yang-Mills connection with torsion (2.1). Its proof follows Tian's arguments about pure Yang-Mills connection in [22] with some modifications.

Let X be a compact Riemannian n -manifold with metric g and E is a vector bundle over X with compact structure group G . For any connection A of E , its curvature form F_A takes value in $Lie(G)$. The norm of F_A at any $p \in X$ is given by

$$|F_A|^2 = \sum_{i,j=1}^n \langle F_A(e_i, e_j), F_A(e_i, e_j) \rangle,$$

where $\{e_i\}$ is any orthonormal basis of $T_p X$, and $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ is the Killing form of $Lie(G)$.

As in [22], we consider a one-parameter family of diffeomorphisms $\{\psi_t\}_{|t|<\infty}$ of X with $\psi_0 = id_X$. We fix a connection A_0 , and denote by its derivative D . Then for any connection A , we can define a one-parameter family $\{A_t\}$ in the following way. Let τ_t^0 be the parallel transport on E associated to A_0 along the path $\psi_s(x)_{0 \leq s \leq t}$, where $x \in X$. More precisely, for any $u \in E_x$ over $x \in X$, let $\tau_s^0(u)$ be the section of E over the path $\psi_s(x)_{0 \leq s \leq t}$ such that

$$D_{\frac{\partial}{\partial s}} \tau_s^0(u) = 0, \quad \tau_0^0(u) = u.$$

We define a family of connections $A_t := \psi_t^*(A)$ by defining its covariant derivative as

$$D_\nu^t s = (\tau_t^0)^{-1} (D_{d\psi_t(\nu)}(\tau_t^0(s)))$$

for any $\nu \in TX$, $s \in \Gamma(X, E)$. Then the curvature of A_t is written as

$$F_{A_t}(X_1, X_2) = (\tau_t^0)^{-1} \cdot F_A(d\psi_t(X_1), d\psi_t(X_2)) \cdot \tau_t^0.$$

It follows that

$$\int_X |F_A|^2 = \int_X \sum_{i,j=1}^n |F_A(d\psi_t(e_i), d\psi_t(e_j))|^2 (\psi_t(x)) dV_g.$$

where dV_g denotes the volume form of g , and $\{e_i\}$ is any local orthonormal basis of TX . By changing variables, we obtain

$$\int_X |F_A|^2 = \int_X \sum_{i,j=1}^n |F_A(d\psi_t(e_i(\psi_t^{-1}(x))), d\psi_t(e_j(\psi_t^{-1}(x))))|^2 Jac(\psi_t^{-1}) dV_g.$$

Let ν be the vector field $\frac{\partial \psi_t}{\partial t}|_{t=0}$ on X . Then we deduce from the above that

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{d}{dt}YM(A_t)|_{t=0} &= \int_X \langle i_\nu F_A, d_A^* F_A \rangle \\
&= \int_X \text{Tr}(i_\nu F_A \wedge F_A \wedge (d * Q)) \\
&= \int_X (|F_A|^2 \text{div} \nu + 4 \sum_{i,j=1}^n \langle F_A([\nu, e_i], e_j), F_A(e_i, e_j) \rangle) dV_g \\
&= \int_X (|F_A|^2 \text{div} \nu - 4 \sum_{i,j=1}^n \langle F_A(\nabla_{e_i} \nu, e_j), F_A(e_i, e_j) \rangle) dV_g
\end{aligned} \tag{2.4}$$

Fix any $p \in X$, let r_p be a positive number with following properties: there are normal coordinates x_1, \dots, x_n in the geodesic ball $B_{r_p}(p)$ of (X, g) , such that $p = (0, \dots, 0)$ and for some constant $c(p)$,

$$|g_{ij} - \delta_{ij}| \leq c(p)(|x_1|^2 + \dots + |x_n|^2),$$

$$|dg_{ij}| \leq c(p)\sqrt{|x_1|^2 + \dots + |x_n|^2},$$

where

$$g_{ij} = g\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x_i}, \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j}\right).$$

Let $r(x) := \sqrt{x_1^2 + \dots + x_n^2}$ be the distance function from p . Define $\nu(x) = \xi(r)r\frac{\partial}{\partial r}$, where ξ is some smooth function with compact support in $B_{r_p}(p)$. Let $\{e_1, \dots, e_n\}$ be any orthonormal basis near p such that $e_1 = \frac{\partial}{\partial r}$. Since x_1, \dots, x_n are normal coordinates, we have $\nabla_{\frac{\partial}{\partial r}} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} = 0$. It follows that

$$\nabla_{\frac{\partial}{\partial r}} \nu = (\xi r)' \frac{\partial}{\partial r} = (\xi' r + \xi) \frac{\partial}{\partial r}. \tag{2.5}$$

Moreover, for $i \geq 2$,

$$\nabla_{e_i} \nu = \xi r (\nabla_{e_i} \frac{\partial}{\partial r}) = \xi \sum_{j=1}^n b_{ij} e_j. \tag{2.6}$$

where $|b_{ij} - \delta_{ij}| = O(1)c(p)r^2$. Applying (2.5) and (2.6) to the variation formula (2.4), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
\int_X \langle i_\nu F_A, d_A^* F_A \rangle &= \int_X (|F_A|^2 (\xi' r + (n-4)\xi + O(1)c(p)r^2 \xi) dV_g \\
&\quad - 4 \int_X (\xi' r |\frac{\partial}{\partial r} \lrcorner F_A|^2) dV_g.
\end{aligned} \tag{2.7}$$

where $\frac{\partial}{\partial r} \lrcorner F_A = F_A(\frac{\partial}{\partial r}, \cdot)$.

We choose, for any τ small enough. $\xi(r) = \xi_\tau(r) = \eta(\frac{r}{\tau})$, where η is smooth and satisfies: $\eta(r) = 1$ for $r \in [0, 1]$, $\eta(r) = 0$ for $r \in [1 + \epsilon, \infty)$, $\epsilon < 0$ and $\eta'(r) \leq 0$. Then

$$\tau \frac{\partial}{\partial \tau} (\xi_\tau(r)) = -r \xi'_\tau(r). \quad (2.8)$$

Plugging this into (2.7), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \int_X \langle i_\nu F_A, d_A^* F_A \rangle &= \tau \frac{\partial}{\partial \tau} \left(\int_X \xi_\tau |F_A|^2 dV_g \right) \\ &\quad + ((4 - n) + O(1)c(p)\tau^2) \int_X \xi_\tau |F_A|^2 dV_g \\ &\quad - 4\tau \frac{\partial}{\partial \tau} \left(\int_X \xi_\tau \left| \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \lrcorner F_A \right|^2 dV_g \right) \end{aligned} \quad (2.9)$$

Choose a nonnegative number $a \geq O(1)c(p)r_p + \max_{x \in X} |d(*Q)|(x)$. Then we deduce from the above

$$\begin{aligned} &\frac{\partial}{\partial \tau} (\tau^{4-n} e^{a\tau} \int_X \xi_\tau |F_A|^2 dV_g) \\ &= \tau^{4-n} e^{a\tau} \left(4 \frac{\partial}{\partial \tau} \left(\int_X \xi_\tau \left| \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \lrcorner F_A \right|^2 dV_g \right) + (-O(1)c(p)\tau + a) \int_X \xi_\tau |F_A|^2 dV_g \right) \\ &\quad - e^{a\tau} \tau^{3-n} \int_X \text{Tr}(i_\nu F_A \wedge F_A \wedge d(*Q)) \end{aligned} \quad (2.10)$$

We have the fact:

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \int_X \text{Tr}(i_\nu F_A \wedge F_A \wedge d(*Q)) \right| &\leq \int_X |\nu| \cdot |F_A|^2 \cdot \max_{x \in X} |d(*Q)| \\ &\leq \max_{x \in X} |d(*Q)| \int_{B_{\tau(1+\epsilon)}(p)} \tau(1+\epsilon) |F_A|^2 dV_g \end{aligned} \quad (2.11)$$

Then, by integrating on τ and letting ϵ tend to zero, we have already proved:

Theorem 2.1. *Let r_p , $c(p)$ and a be as above. Then for any $0 < \sigma < \rho < r_p$, we have*

$$\begin{aligned} &\rho^{4-n} e^{a\rho} \int_{B_\rho(p)} |F_A|^2 dV_g - \sigma^{4-n} e^{a\sigma} \int_{B_\sigma(p)} |F_A|^2 dV_g \\ &\geq 4 \int_{B_\rho(p) \setminus B_\sigma(p)} r^{4-n} e^{ar} \left| \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \lrcorner F_A \right|^2 dV_g \\ &\quad + \int_\sigma^\rho (e^{a\tau} \tau^{4-n} (a - \max_{x \in X} |d(*Q)| - O(1)c_p \tau) \int_{B_\tau(p)} |F_A|^2 dV_g) d\tau \end{aligned} \quad (2.12)$$

Next, we prove a mean value inequality about the energy dense $|F_A|^2$. The Bochner-Weitzenböck formula ([3], Theorem 3.1) is

$$(d_A d_A^* + d_A^* d_A) F_A = \nabla_A^* \nabla_A F_A + F_A \circ (Ric \wedge g + 2R) + \mathcal{R}^A(F_A).$$

Since A is a instanton and the Bianchi identity $d_A F_A = 0$, we re-write the left hand

$$(d_A d_A^* + d_A^* d_A) F_A = d_A \left(* (d(*Q) \wedge F_A) \right)$$

Hence

$$|d_A \left(* (d(*Q) \wedge F_A) \right)| \leq n |\nabla(d(*Q))| |F_A| + n |d(*Q)| |\nabla_A F_A|$$

due to for all $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_{n-2} \in T_x X$, where $n = \dim X$,

$$\begin{aligned} & d_A^* \left((d(*Q) \wedge F_A) \right) (X_1, X_2, \dots, X_{n-2}) \\ &= - \sum_i (\nabla_A)_{e_i} (d(*Q) \wedge F_A) (e_i, X_1, \dots, X_{n-2}), \\ &= - \sum_i (\nabla_{e_i} (d(*Q)) \wedge F_A) (e_i, X_1, \dots, X_{n-2}) \\ &\quad - \sum_i ((d(*Q)) \wedge (\nabla_A)_{e_i} F_A) (e_i, X_1, \dots, X_{n-2}), \end{aligned}$$

Then we have

$$\begin{aligned} |\langle (d_A d_A^* + d_A^* d_A) F_A, F_A \rangle| &\leq n |\nabla(d(*Q))| \cdot |F_A|^2 + n |d(*Q)| \cdot |\nabla_A F_A| \cdot |F_A| \\ &\leq C_1 |F_A|^2 + C_2 (\varepsilon |\nabla_A F_A|^2 + \frac{1}{\varepsilon} |F_A|^2) \end{aligned} \quad (2.13)$$

where ε is a positive constant.

The quadratic $\mathcal{R}^A(F_A) \in \Omega^2(\mathfrak{g})$ can be expressed with the help of a local orthonormal frame (e_1, e_2, \dots, e_n) of TX as

$$\mathcal{R}^A(F_A)(X_1, X_2) = 2 \sum_{j=1}^n [F_A(e_j, X_1), F_A(e_j, X_2)].$$

The estimate of the Laplacian now follow from

$$\begin{aligned} -\nabla^* \nabla |F_A|^2 &= -2 |\nabla_A F_A|^2 - 2 \langle F_A, \nabla_A^* \nabla_A F_A \rangle \\ &\leq 2 \langle F_A, F_A \circ (Ric \wedge g + 2R) \rangle + 2 \langle F_A, \mathcal{R}^A(F_A) \rangle \\ &\quad + C_1 |F_A|^2 + C_2 (\varepsilon |\nabla_A F_A|^2 + \frac{1}{\varepsilon} |F_A|^2) - 2 |\nabla_A F_A|^2 \end{aligned}$$

We choose ε small enough such that $C_2 \varepsilon < 2$, then we have

$$\Delta |F_A|^2 \leq C |F_A|^2 + c |F_A|^3.$$

Thus, we get

$$\Delta |F_A| \leq C |F_A| + c |F_A|^2. \quad (2.14)$$

Theorem 2.2. *Let A be any Yang-Mills connection with torsion of a G -bundle E over X . Then there exist constants $\varepsilon = \varepsilon(X, n, Q) > 0$ and $C = C(X, n)$, such that for any $p \in X$ and $\rho < r_p$, whenever*

$$\rho^{4-n} \int_{B_\rho(p)} |F_A|^2 dV_g \leq \varepsilon$$

then

$$|F_A|(p) \leq \frac{C}{\rho^2} \left(\rho^{4-n} \int_{B_\rho(p)} |F_A|^2 dV_g \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}. \quad (2.15)$$

Our proof here use G.Tian's arguments in [22] for pure Yang-Mills connection.

Proof. By scalling, we may assume that $\rho = 1$. Define a function

$$f(r) = (1 - 2r)^2 \sup_{x \in B_r(p)} |F_A|(x), \quad r \in [0, \frac{1}{2}].$$

Then $f(r)$ is continuous in $[0, \frac{1}{2}]$ with $f(\frac{1}{2}) = 0$, and f attains its maximum at a certain r_0 in $[0, \frac{1}{2}]$.

First we claim that $f(r_0) \leq 64$ if ε is sufficiently small. Assume that $f(r_0) > 64$. Put $b = \sup_{x \in B_{r_0}(p)} |F_A|(x) = |F_A|(x_0)$ by taking $\sigma = \frac{1}{4}(1 - 2r_0)$, we get

$$\begin{aligned} \sup_{x \in B_\sigma(x_0)} |F_A| &\leq \sup_{x \in B_{r_0+\sigma}(p)} |F_A|(x) \\ &\leq \frac{(1 - 2r_0)^2}{(1 - 2r_0 - 2\sigma)^2} \sup_{x \in B_{r_0}(p)} |F_A|(x) = 4b. \end{aligned} \quad (2.16)$$

Clearly, $16\sigma^2 b \geq 64$; i.e., $\sigma\sqrt{b} \geq 2$. Define a scaled metric $\tilde{g} = bg$. Then the norm $|F_A|_{\tilde{g}}$ of F_A is equal to $b^{-1}F_A$ with respect to \tilde{g} . Hence

$$\sup_{x \in B_2(x_0, \tilde{g})} |F_A|_{\tilde{g}} \leq 4, \quad (2.17)$$

where $B_2(x_0, \tilde{g})$ denotes the geodesic ball of \tilde{g} with radius 2 and centered at x_0 . Using (2.17), we deduce from (2.14) that in $B_2(x_0, \tilde{g})$,

$$\Delta_{\tilde{g}} |F_A|_{\tilde{g}} \leq (C + 4c) |F_A|_{\tilde{g}}. \quad (2.18)$$

Then, by using the mean-value theorem, we obtain

$$1 = |F_A|_{\tilde{g}}(x_0) \leq \tilde{c} \left(\int_{B_1(x, \tilde{g})} |F_A|_{\tilde{g}}^2 dV_{\tilde{g}} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}. \quad (2.19)$$

where \tilde{c} is some uniform constant.

However, by the monotonicity (Theorem 2.1),

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{B_1(x_0, \tilde{g})} |F_A|_{\tilde{g}}^2 dV_{\tilde{g}} &= (\sqrt{b})^{n-4} \int_{B_{\frac{1}{\sqrt{b}}}(x_0)} |F_A|^2 dV_g \\ &\leq \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{4-n} e^{\frac{a}{2}} \int_{B_{\frac{1}{2}}(x_0)} |F_A|^2 dV_g \\ &\leq \varepsilon 2^{n-4} e^{\frac{a}{2}} \end{aligned}$$

Combining this with (2.19), we obtain

$$1 \leq \tilde{c} \varepsilon 2^{n-4} e^{\frac{a}{2}}.$$

It is impossible since we can choose $\varepsilon = \varepsilon(X, n, Q)$ sufficiently small. The claim is proved.

Thus, we have

$$\sup_{x \in B_{\frac{1}{4}}(p)} |F_A|(x) \leq 4f(r_0) \leq 256.$$

It follows from this and (2.14) with \tilde{g} replaced by g that for some uniform constant c' ,

$$\Delta_g |F_A| \leq c' |F_A|. \quad (2.20)$$

Then (2.15) follows from (2.20) and a standard Moser iteration. \square

3 Asymptotic Behavior and Conformal Transformation

3.1 Chern-Simons Functional

The main aim of this section is to get the relationship between gauge theory on an n -dimensional manifold M and the gauge theory on the $n + 1$ -dimensional manifold $Z = \mathbf{R} \times M$. The main idea is that a connection on $\mathbf{R} \times M$ can be regarded as one-parameter families of connections on M by local trivialisation. Let t be the standard parameter on the factor \mathbf{R} in the $\mathbf{R} \times M$ and let $\{x^j\}_{j=1}^n$ be local coordinates of M . A connection \mathbf{A} over the cylinder Z is given by a local connection matrix

$$\mathbf{A} = A_0 dt + \sum_{i=1}^n A_i dx^i.$$

where A_0 and A_i dependence on all $n + 1$ variable t, x^1, \dots, x^n . We take $A_0 = 0$ (sometimes called a temporal gauge). In this situation, the curvature in a mixed x_i -plane is given by the simple formula

$$F_{0i} = \frac{\partial A_i}{\partial t}.$$

We denote $A = \sum_{i=1}^n A_i dx^i$ and $\dot{A} = \frac{\partial A}{\partial t}$, then the curvature is given by

$$F_A = F_A + dt \wedge \dot{A}.$$

M has a Riemannian metric and $*$ -operator $*_M$. If ϕ is a 1-form on M then, for $*$ -operator defined on $Z = \mathbf{R} \times M$ with respect to the product metric, we have

$$*(dt \wedge \phi) = *_M \phi.$$

Then the instanton equation is equivalent to

$$*_M \dot{A} = - *_M P \wedge F_A, \quad (3.1)$$

$$*_M F_A = -\dot{A} \wedge *_M P - *_M Q \wedge F_A. \quad (3.2)$$

Let $E \rightarrow M$ be a vector bundle, the space \mathcal{A} is an affine space modelled on $\Omega^1(\mathfrak{g}_E)$ so, fixing a reference connection $A_0 \in \mathcal{A}$, we have

$$\mathcal{A} = A_0 + \Omega^1(\mathfrak{g}_E).$$

We define the Chern-Simons functional by

$$CS(A) := - \int_M Tr(a \wedge d_{A_0} a + \frac{2}{3} a \wedge a \wedge a) \wedge *_M P,$$

fixing $CS(A_0) = 0$. This functional is obtained by integrating of the Chern-Simons 1-form

$$\Gamma(\beta)_A = \Gamma_A(\beta_A) = -2 \int_M Tr(F_A \wedge \beta_A) \wedge *_M P.$$

We find CS explicitly by integrating Γ over paths $A(t) = A_0 + ta$, from A_0 to any $A = A_0 + a$:

$$\begin{aligned} CS(A) - CS(A_0) &= \int_0^1 \Gamma_{A(t)}(\dot{A}(t)) dt \\ &= -2 \int_0^1 \left(\int_M Tr((F_{A_0} + t d_{A_0} a + t^2 a \wedge a) \wedge a) \wedge *_M P \right) dt \\ &= - \int_M Tr(d_{A_0} a \wedge a + \frac{2}{3} a \wedge a \wedge a) \wedge *_M P + C, \end{aligned}$$

where $C = C(A_0, a)$ is a constant and vanishes if A_0 is an instanton. The co-closed condition $d *_M P = 0$ implies that the Chern-Simons 1-form is closed. So it does not depend on the path $A(t)$ [7, 20, 21]. Since

$$dTr(d_{A_0} a \wedge a + \frac{2}{3} a \wedge a \wedge a) = Tr(F_{A_0+a}^2 - F_{A_0}^2),$$

we can re-write Chern-Simons functional as

$$\begin{aligned} CS(A) - CS(A_0) &= - \int_M Tr(d_{A_0} a \wedge a + \frac{2}{3} a \wedge a \wedge a) \wedge *_M P \\ &= - \frac{1}{n-3} \int_M Tr(F_A^2 - F_{A_0}^2) \wedge *_M Q, \end{aligned} \quad (3.3)$$

the second formula holds because of equation (1.3).

3.2 Asymptotic Behavior

Let $Z = \mathbf{R} \times M$ be an $(n+1)$ -manifold and M be an n -manifold. Let \mathbf{A} be an instanton on Z with finite energy, i.e. $\int_Z |F_{\mathbf{A}}|^2 < \infty$. We use the Chern-Simons functional to study the decay of instantons over the cylinder manifold. We will see that, an instanton with $L^2(Z)$ -bounded curvature can be represented by a connection form which decays exponentially on the tube.

We consider a family of bands $B_T = (T-1, T) \times M$ which we identify with the model $B = (0, 1) \times M$ by translation. So the integrability of $|F_{\mathbf{A}}|^2$ over the end implies that

$$\int_{(T, T+1) \times M} |F_{\mathbf{A}}|^2 \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{as } T \rightarrow \infty.$$

Proposition 3.1. *Let $Z = \mathbf{R} \times M$, here M is a closed Riemannian n -manifold, $n \geq 4$, which admits a smooth 3-form P and a smooth 4-form Q those satisfy equations (1.2) and (1.3). Let \mathbf{A} be a instanton over Z , then at the end of Z there is a flat connection Γ over M such that \mathbf{A} converges to Γ , i.e. the restriction $\mathbf{A}|_{M \times \{T\}}$ converges (modulo gauge equivalence) in C^∞ over M as $T \rightarrow \infty$.*

Proof. We choose

$$\rho = \frac{1}{2} \text{Inj}((T, T+1) \times M, g_Z),$$

where $\text{Inj}((t, t+1) \times M) > 0$ denotes the injectivity radius of the manifold $((T, T+1) \times M, g_Z)$. It's easy to see ρ is not dependent on t . Since $*Q_Z = *_M P + dt \wedge *_M Q$, we obtain

$$\max_{(x,t) \in Z} |d(*Q_Z)|^2 = \max_{x \in M} (|d*_M P|^2 + |d(*_M Q)|^2) < \infty,$$

and

$$\max_{(x,t) \in Z} |\nabla(d*Q_Z)| \leq \max_{x \in M} |\nabla(d*_M P)| + \max_{x \in M} |\nabla(d*_M Q)| < \infty.$$

We denote $\varepsilon = \varepsilon(Z, n, Q)$ as the constant in Theorem 2.2. Then there exist T sufficiently large such that $t \geq T$, we have

$$\int_{(T, T+1) \times M} |F_{\mathbf{A}}|^2 \leq \varepsilon \rho^{n-3},$$

Then for any point $(t, x) \in (T, T+1) \times M$, we have

$$\rho^{3-n} \int_{B_\rho(x,t)} |F_{\mathbf{A}}|^2 \leq \varepsilon.$$

From Theorem 2.2, we have

$$|F_{\mathbf{A}}|(t, x) \leq \frac{C}{\rho^2} (\rho^{3-n} \int_{B_\rho(x,t)} |F_{\mathbf{A}}|^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

It implies that for any sequence $T_i \rightarrow \infty$ there exist a flat connection Γ over M such that, after suitable gauge transformations,

$$\mathbf{A}_{T_i} \rightarrow \Gamma,$$

in C^∞ over M . □

Under above, from (3.3) we can write Chern-Simons function as

$$CS(A(T)) - CS(A(\infty)) = -\frac{1}{n-3} \int_M Tr(F_A \wedge F_A) \wedge *_M Q.$$

Lemma 3.2. *Let A be an instanton with temporal gauge, then*

$$\begin{aligned} CS(A(T')) - CS(A(T)) &= \int_{[T, T'] \times M} Tr(F_A \wedge *_M F_A) \\ &\quad - (n-3) \int_T^{T'} (CS(A(t)) - CS(A_\infty)) dt \end{aligned} \quad (3.4)$$

Proof. Using the method of previous section, we have

$$\frac{d}{dt} CS(A(t)) = \Gamma_{A(t)}(\dot{A}(t))$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} CS(A(T')) - CS(A(T)) &= \int_T^{T'} dCS(A(t)) = \int_T^{T'} \Gamma_{A(t)}(\dot{A}(t)) dt \\ &= -2 \int_{[T, T'] \times M} Tr(F_{A(t)} \wedge dt \wedge \dot{A}(t)) \wedge *_M P \\ &= - \int_{[T, T'] \times M} Tr(F_A \wedge F_A) \wedge *_M Q_Z + \int_T^{T'} \left(\int_M Tr(F_A \wedge F_A) \wedge *_M Q \right) dt \\ &= \int_{[T, T'] \times M} Tr(F_A \wedge *_M F_A) - (n-3) \int_T^{T'} (CS(A(t)) - CS(A_\infty)) dt \end{aligned}$$

□

We set

$$J(T) = \int_T^\infty \|F_A\|_{L^2}^2 = - \int_{[T, \infty) \times M} Tr(F_A \wedge *_M F_A).$$

On the one hand, we can express $J(T)$ as the integration of $Tr(F_A \wedge F_A) \wedge *_M Q_Z$, since A is an instanton.

$$J(T) = \int_{[T, \infty) \times M} Tr(F_A \wedge F_A) \wedge *_M Q_Z$$

From (3.4), taking the limit over finite tubes $(T, T') \times M$ with $T' \rightarrow +\infty$ we see that

$$J(T) = CS(A(T)) - CS(A_\infty) - (n-3) \int_T^\infty (CS(A(t)) - CS(A_\infty)) dt \quad (3.5)$$

where $A(T)$ is the connection over M obtain by restriction to $M \times \{T\}$. From (3.5), we can obtain the T derivative of J as

$$\frac{d}{dT}J(T) = \frac{d}{dT}(CS(A(T)) - CS(A(\infty))) + (n-3)(CS(A(T)) - CS(A_\infty)) \quad (3.6)$$

On the other hand, the T derivative of $J(T)$ can be expressed as minus the integration over $M \times \{T\}$ of the curvature density $|F_A|^2$, and this is exactly the n -dimensional curvature density $|F_{A(T)}|^2$ plusing the density $|\dot{A}|^2$. By the relation (1.2) and (1.3) between the two components of the curvature for an instanton, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \|F_{A(T)}\|_{L^2(M)}^2 &= - \int_M \text{Tr}(F_{A(T)} \wedge *_M F_{A(T)}) \\ &= - \int_M \text{Tr}(F_{A(T)} \wedge (-\dot{A}(T) \wedge *_M P)) \\ &\quad + \int_M \text{Tr}(F_{A(T)} \wedge F_{A(T)}) \wedge *_M Q \\ &= \|\dot{A}\|_{L^2(M)}^2 - (n-3)(CS(A(T)) - CS(A_\infty)) \end{aligned}$$

Thus

$$\frac{d}{dT}J(T) = -2\|F_{A(T)}\|_{L^2(M)}^2 - (n-3)(CS(A(T)) - CS(A_\infty)) \quad (3.7)$$

$$= -2\|\dot{A}\|_{L^2(M)}^2 + (n-3)(CS(A(t)) - CS(A_\infty)) \quad (3.8)$$

From (3.6) and (3.7), we have

$$\frac{d}{dT}(CS(A(T)) - CS(A_\infty)) + 2(n-3)(CS(A(T)) - CS(A_\infty)) \leq 0$$

From (3.6) and (3.8), we have

$$\frac{d}{dT}(CS(A(T)) - CS(A_\infty)) \leq 0$$

It's easy to see these imply that $(CS(A(t)) - CS(A_\infty))$ is non-negative and decays exponentially,

$$0 \leq (CS(A(T)) - CS(A_\infty)) \leq Ce^{-(2n-6)T} \quad (3.9)$$

We introduce a parameter δ and set

$$L_\delta(T) := \int_T^\infty e^{\delta t} \|F_A\|_{L^2(M)}^2 dt$$

Theorem 3.3. *Let A be an instanton with L^2 -bounded curvature on $Z = \mathbf{R} \times M$, here M is a closed Riemannian n -manifold, $n \geq 4$, which admits a smooth 3-form P and a smooth 4-form Q those satisfy equations (1.2) and (1.3). Then there is a constant C , such that*

$$L_\delta(t) \leq Ce^{(\delta-2n+6)t}$$

where $0 < \delta < 2n - 6$.

Proof. From (3.6), we get

$$\|F_{\mathbf{A}}\|_{L^2(M)}^2 = -\frac{d}{dt}(CS(A(t)) - CS(A_{\infty})) - (n-3)(CS(A(t)) - CS(A_{\infty}))$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} L_{\delta}(T) &= -\int_T^{\infty} e^{\delta t} \frac{d}{dt}(CS(A(t)) - CS(A_{\infty})) \\ &\quad - (n-3) \int_T^{\infty} e^{\delta t} (CS(A(t)) - CS(A_{\infty})) \\ &= -e^{\delta t} (CS(A(t)) - CS(A_{\infty}))|_T^{\infty} + \int_T^{\infty} \delta e^{\delta t} (CS(A(t)) - CS(A_{\infty})) \\ &\quad - (n-3) \int_T^{\infty} e^{\delta t} (CS(A(t)) - CS(A_{\infty})) \\ &\leq e^{\delta T} (CS(A(T)) - CS(A_{\infty})) + \int_T^{\infty} \delta e^{\delta t} (CS(A(t)) - CS(A_{\infty})) \\ &\leq C e^{(\delta-2n+6)T} + \int_T^{\infty} C \delta e^{(\delta-2n+6)t} dt \\ &= (C + \frac{C\delta}{2n-6-\delta}) e^{(\delta-2n+6)T} \end{aligned}$$

□

3.3 Conformal Transformation

We consider $\bar{Z} = C(M)$, where $C(M)$ is a cone over M with metric

$$g_{\bar{Z}} = dr^2 + r^2 g_M = e^{2t}(dt^2 + g_M),$$

where $r := e^t$.

It means that the cone $C(M)$ is conformally equivalent to the cylinder

$$Z = \mathbf{R} \times M$$

with the metric

$$g_Z = dt^2 + g_M.$$

Furthermore, we can show that the instanton equation on the cone $\bar{Z} = C(M)$ is related with the instanton equation on the cylinder $Z = \mathbf{R} \times M$,

$$\bar{*}F_{\mathbf{A}} + \bar{*}Q_{\bar{Z}} \wedge F_{\mathbf{A}} = e^{(n-3)t}(*F_{\mathbf{A}} + *Q_Z \wedge F_{\mathbf{A}}) = 0,$$

where $\dim C(M) = \dim Z = n+1$, $\bar{*}$ is the $*$ -operator in $C(M)$. And

$$Q_{\bar{Z}} = e^{4t}(dt \wedge P + Q). \quad (3.10)$$

In the other word, equation on $C(M)$ is equivalent to the equation on $\mathbf{R} \times M$ after rescaling of the metric. So we can only consider the instanton equation

$$\bar{*}F_{\mathbf{A}} + \bar{*}Q_{\bar{Z}} \wedge F_{\mathbf{A}} = 0$$

on the cone $C(M)$ over M . Since

$$\bar{*}_Z Q_{\bar{Z}} = e^{(n-3)t} * Q_Z = e^{(n-3)t} (*_M P + dt \wedge *_M Q),$$

by direct calculate, $\bar{*}_Z Q_{\bar{Z}}$ is closed. This implies that the instantons also satisfy the pure Yang-Mills equations with respect to the metric $g_{\bar{Z}}$.

Proposition 3.4. *Let \mathbf{A} be a instanton on $Z = \mathbf{R} \times M$, here M is a closed Riemannian n -manifold, $n \geq 4$, which admits a smooth 3-form P and a smooth 4-form Q those satisfy equations (1.2) and (1.3). Then the connection \mathbf{A} is a Yang-Mills connection on $C(M)$.*

After rescaling of the metric,

$$F_{\mathbf{A}} \wedge \bar{*}F_{\mathbf{A}} = e^{(n-3)t} F_{\mathbf{A}} \wedge *F_{\mathbf{A}}.$$

The curvature $F_{\mathbf{A}}$ is L^2 -bounded over Z . We shall prove that the curvature $F_{\mathbf{A}}$ is still L^2 -bounded over $C(M)$ by the following lemma.

Lemma 3.5. *Let \mathbf{A} be a instanton on $Z = \mathbf{R} \times M$ with L^2 -bounded curvature $F_{\mathbf{A}}$, i.e.*

$$\int_{\mathbf{R} \times M} \langle F_{\mathbf{A}} \wedge *F_{\mathbf{A}} \rangle < +\infty,$$

here M is a closed Riemannian n -manifold, $n \geq 4$, which admits a 3-form P and a 4-form Q those satisfy equations (1.2) and (1.3). Then

$$\int_{\mathbf{R} \times M} \langle F_{\mathbf{A}} \wedge \bar{*}F_{\mathbf{A}} \rangle < +\infty.$$

Proof. From theorem 3.3, we have

$$L_{n-3}(T) = \int_T^\infty e^{(n-3)t} \|F_{\mathbf{A}}\|_{L^2(M)}^2 dt \leq C e^{-(n-3)T}$$

Then for any constant $T \in [0, \infty)$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\mathbf{R} \times M} \langle F_{\mathbf{A}} \wedge \bar{*}F_{\mathbf{A}} \rangle &= \int_{\mathbf{R} \times M} e^{(n-3)t} \langle F_{\mathbf{A}} \wedge *F_{\mathbf{A}} \rangle \\ &= \int_{(-\infty, T] \times M} + \int_{[T, \infty) \times M} e^{(n-3)t} \langle F_{\mathbf{A}} \wedge *F_{\mathbf{A}} \rangle \\ &\leq e^{(n-3)T} \int_{\mathbf{R} \times M} \langle F_{\mathbf{A}} \wedge *F_{\mathbf{A}} \rangle + L_{n-3}(T) < +\infty \end{aligned}$$

□

We only consider instantons with L^2 -bounded curvature on the cone of M . In the next section, we will give a vanishing theorem for Yang-Mills connection with finite energy on the cone of M .

4 Vanishing Theorem for Yang-Mills

In this section, notations may be different from the previous sections. We use the conformal technique to give the vanishing theorem for Yang-Mills connection on the cone of M .

Let M be a Riemannian $n + 1$ -manifold. Suppose $X \in \Gamma(TM)$ is a conformal vector field on (M, g) , namely,

$$\mathcal{L}_X g = 2fg$$

where $f \in C^\infty(M)$. Here \mathcal{L}_X denotes the Lie derivative with respect to X .

The vector field X generates a family of local conformal diffeomorphism.

$$F_t = \exp(tX) : M \rightarrow M$$

This family of local conformal diffeomorphism can induce a bundle automorphism, \tilde{F}_t , of the principal bundle P . Such a lift is readily obtained from a connection on P by setting $\tilde{F}_t = \exp(t\tilde{X})$ where \tilde{X} is the horizontal lift of X on P . If A is the connection form we have $i_{\tilde{X}}A = 0$ since \tilde{X} is horizontal. Thus the Lie derivative of A is can be expressed in terms of the curvature F_A : $\mathcal{L}_{\tilde{X}}A = i_{\tilde{X}}dA + di_{\tilde{X}}A = i_{\tilde{X}}(F_A - \frac{1}{2}[A, A]) = i_X F_A$. And hence $\tilde{F}_t^*A = A + ti_X F_A + o(t^2)$. One can see the detailed process in [19].

We will consider the variation of the Yang-Mills functional under the family of diffeomorphism.

$$YM(A, g) = \int_M |F_A|^2 dVol_g$$

where $dVol_g = \sqrt{\det g} dx$ is the volume form of M .

$$\lambda := |F_A|^2 dVol_g$$

is an n -form on M . For any $\eta \in C_0^\infty(M)$

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= \int_M d[(i_X \lambda) \eta] = \int_M \eta d(i_X \lambda) + \int_M d\eta \wedge i_X \lambda \\ &= \int_M \eta \mathcal{L}_X \lambda + \int_M d\eta \wedge i_X \lambda \end{aligned}$$

that is

$$\int_M \eta \mathcal{L}_X \lambda = - \int_M d\eta \wedge i_X \lambda \quad (4.1)$$

where i_X stands for the inner product with the vector X . Now, let us compute $\mathcal{L}_X \lambda$.

Lemma 4.1. *Let $\lambda = \text{Tr}(F_A \wedge *F_A)$ and X be a smooth vector field on M satisfying $\mathcal{L}_X g = 2fg$, then*

$$\mathcal{L}_X \lambda = (n - 3)f\lambda + 2\text{Tr}(d_A(i_X F_A) \wedge *F_A)$$

Proof. In local coordinates $\{x^i\}_{i=1}^n$, the n -form λ

$$\lambda = \text{Tr}(F_A \wedge *F_A) = \sum g^{ij} g^{kl} \text{tr} F_{ik} F_{jl} \sqrt{\det g} dx^1 \wedge \dots \wedge dx^n$$

is conformal of weight $n - 3$, i.e. $\lambda(A, e^{2f}g) = e^{(n-3)f} \lambda(A, g)$ for any $f \in C^\infty$. The vector field X satisfies $\mathcal{L}_X g = 2fg$, so

$$F_t^* g = \exp\left(2 \int_0^t F_s^* f\right) g.$$

Since λ is conformal with wight $n - 3$,

$$\begin{aligned} (F_t^* \lambda)(A, g) &= \lambda(\tilde{F}_t^* A, F_t^* g) = \exp\left((n-3) \int_0^t F_t^* f\right) \cdot \lambda(\tilde{F}_t^* A, g) \\ &= (1 + (n-3)tf + o(t^2)) \\ &\quad \times \text{Tr}(F_A \wedge *F_A + 2td_A(i_X F_A) \wedge *F_A + o(t^2)) \\ &= \text{Tr}(F_A \wedge *F_A + t(n-3)f F_A \wedge *F_A) \\ &\quad + 2t \text{Tr}(d_A(i_X F_A) \wedge *F_A) + o(t^2) \end{aligned}$$

where we used the fact $F_t^* f = f + o(t)$ and $\tilde{F}_t^* A = A + ti_X F_A + o(t^2)$. By the definition of Lie derivative

$$\mathcal{L}_X \lambda = \frac{d}{dt}(F_t^* \lambda)|_{t=0} = (n-3)f\lambda + 2\text{Tr}(d_A(i_X F_A) \wedge *F_A). \quad (4.2)$$

□

We consider $M = \mathbf{R} \times N$ with metric

$$g_M = e^{2t}(dt^2 + g_N)$$

where N is a compact Riemannian n -manifold, $n \geq 4$, with metric g_N . Then the vector field $X = \frac{\partial}{\partial t}$ satisfies

$$\mathcal{L}_X g_M = X \cdot e^{2t}(dt^2 + g_N) + e^{2t}(\mathcal{L}_X dt^2) = 2g_M,$$

and in this case, $f = 1$.

Theorem 4.2. *Let (M, g_M) be a Riemannian manifold as above. Let A be a Yang-Mills connection with L^2 -bounded curvature F_A , i.e.*

$$\int_M |F_A|^2 < +\infty$$

over M . Then A must be a flat connection.

Proof. From (4.1) and (4.2), we have

$$\begin{aligned}
\int_M \eta(n-3)\lambda &= - \int_M d\eta \wedge i_X \lambda - 2 \int_M \eta \text{Tr}(d_A(i_X F_A) \wedge *F_A) \\
&= - \int_M d\eta \wedge i_X \lambda - 2 \int_M \text{Tr}(d_A(\eta i_X F_A) \wedge *F_A) \\
&\quad + 2 \int_M \text{Tr}((d\eta \wedge i_X F_A) \wedge *F_A) \\
&\leq 3 \int_M |d\eta| \cdot |X| \cdot \lambda
\end{aligned} \tag{4.3}$$

The second term in the second line vanishes since A is a Yang-Mills connection.

We choose the cut-off function with $\eta(t) = 1$ on the interval $|t| \leq T$, $\eta(t) = 0$ on the interval $|t| \geq 2T$, and $|d\eta| \leq 2T^{-1}$. Then $d\eta$ has support in $T \leq |t| \leq 2T$ and $|X(t)| = 1$,

$$\int_M \eta(n-3)\lambda \leq \frac{6}{T} \int_{\{T \leq |t| \leq 2T\} \times N} \lambda.$$

Letting $T \rightarrow \infty$ we get

$$\int_M (n-3)\lambda = 0,$$

Then $F_A = 0$. □

Acknowledgment

I would like to thank O. Lechtenfeld for kind comments regarding this and its companion article [1, 13] and S.K. Donaldson for helpful comments regarding his article [7], and H.N. Sá Earp for helpful comments regarding his article [20, 21]. This work is partially supported by Wu Wen-Tsun Key Laboratory of Mathematics of Chinese Academy of Sciences at USTC.

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